[Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon.]

With regard to the reason why two Engineers were invited to give their advice, the situation can be explained as follows. When the whole scheme was first designed and details worked out, the department had one or two special problems in connection with the head.works. One was with regard to the control of water which varies from a minimum discharge of 45,000 to a maximum discharge of 66,000. The design on such works required special considerations based on previous experience. Had the design not been fully satisfied, it might necessitate flooding of certain important valuable lands for which compensation would have been excessive. Moreover the place where the water is being diverted is not very far from the main catchment with the result that during every outburst of rain, sand, sediment and silt is washed and the course of the river being precipitous for a considerable length, the water does not get sufficient space to settle down and dispose of the settled water in the normal course. So this special treatment of sedimentation was another problem that had to be solved.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT. Is the motion pressed?

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Thodupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): In view of the answer given by the Electrical Engineer, I do not press the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The motion that a sum of Rs. 36,24,149 be granted under Demand II—Electricity and Telephone was put to vote and the grant was made.

Motions 99 to 102.

The following motions lapsed on account of time-limit:—

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR:

99. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 28,09,832 for Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme by Re 1.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

100. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 36,24,149 under Demand II by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI:

101. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 36,24,149 under Demand II by Re. 1.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH:

102. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 36,24,149 under Demand II by Re. 1.

DEMAND III—WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE DEPARTMENT.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 25,78,440 under Demand III—Water Works and Drainage.

Motion No. 103.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, I beg to move:—

The allotment of Rs. 900 for Assistant Supervising Engineer be omitted under Willingdon Water Works—Working expenses.

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Sir, no lengthy argument is needed in support of my motion. Sir, the Willingdon Water Works has only been started very recently and I think one Supervising Assistant Engineer would be enough. A very strong case has to be made out if one more Officer as Assistant Superintendent is required. This is only an instance of the ordinary habit of our officers to ask for more subordinates. I do not see that a case has been made out for one more officer. So I beg leave to make this motion.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I support the motion. As it is, the post has been recommended as a tempoary one. In doing so, the Water Works Engineer ought to have convinced this House what additional work is to be attended to by the temporary Officer and the period for which his services are necessary. Besides what the mover has told the House, I do not see any reason for approving the conduct of the heads of departments without saying adequate reasons for the appointment of an additional officer. With these words, I support the motion.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, just as the mover said, the Willingdon Water Works, Trivandrum, was opened in 1933, in the first stage so that it is now two years since it has been in operation in that area. The total area of the water supply town is $11\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, divided into two stages. The area of the first stage is $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles; and, for these $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, we had the one Superintendent. We are now at the second stage, which also covers an area of about 5 square miles Early in the next year, 2 to 3 square miles of the second stage will be brought into service; and in about the middle of the year, the remaining portion also will come under service. Therefore, if we do not appoint an Assistant Superintendent, the present Superintendent will have to look after double the area that he has been looking after till now.

Sir, the Superintendent has to look after the purification of water and the maintenance and annual repairs. It is his function also to examine and give house connections in the town. I may give some statistics to show how house connection work in Trivandrum has been increasing from day to day.

We first took up house connection work about the end of March 1935. Before the close of the year 1110, we had about 400 applications. We gave 282 connections to private houses and 66 connections to Government buildings, together amounting to 348. In the year 1111, up to the end of Edavam, we had 521 applications, of which we gave connections to 368 private buildings and to 58 Government buildings. That works up to 426 connections in about 10 months: and applications are pouring in, in large numbers. Sir, we have to give these connections not only to enable the people in the town to get the benefit of protected water supply, but also from the stand-point of our own revenue and of the public health of the town.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): How many applications are now pending?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): About 120.

When the service in the second stage commences, we expect a large number of applications from that area also. There are very decent buildings there, and some of the people there have already begun to press me to give them water connection even before water is turned on into the street pipes.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know the approximate period for which this temporary Superintendent may be required?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): It is very difficult to state the period, because it all depends on how applications come in for house connection. If there are many of them, the Assistant Superintendent may have to be continued; if the house connections ceases, he also goes.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): So, is it for only house connection work that the member needs one more temporary Superintendent?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Not only for that, Sir. I shall explain.

House connections are carried on under what is called the personal deposit account. A gentleman, who wants to take water connection to his house, first gets an estimate prepared by a plumber, for the inside installation. That estimate is scrutinised by the Superintendent, particularly with regard to the sizes of the pipe used in relation to the pressure in the street main. Sir, it was with a good deal of difficulty that we built up the present pressure for our water supply, and we do not want that pressure to be frittered away by private people using pipes of the wrong size. Sir, that is a very important matter; and it is the Superintendent that has to scrutinise it. This takes a lot of time.

Then, we have to prepare the connection estimate, *viz.*, the estimate for connecting the street main with the meter inside the house. And then we collect the estimated cost from the applicants. The work is carried out, and immediately the accounts are settled; and if the Department owes any money to the party, such amount is immediately refunded to him; if, on the other hand, more money is due from the party, we collect it immediately.

It is the subordinates that take the measurements of works done. Every one of these measurements has got to be checked by the Superintendent. I know, Sir, that the present Superintendent is working from 7 a. m. to 6 p. m., everyday, with an interval of 2 hours in the afternoon. Still, complaints have come in that house connections are not being given as quickly as people would wish.

Further, as I have already stated the Superintendent is also responsible for the purification of the water.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : May I know the length of the pipe line in the first stage ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : 68 miles of street mains and about 32 miles in house installations, private and otherwise.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : In the second stage ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : 41 miles of street mains.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : How much of it has been finished already ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : About 24 miles.

Sir, Trivandrum Water sapply scheme being new, we require increased staff for the first few years ; because, it is in this period that there is a rush for house connection. I got some figures from Benares about the house connections there. They are doing only 238 connections in a year, whereas we give about 700.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI. (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : In view of what the official member has stated, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Should we not be allowed to hear the official member in full ? Why should we be deprived of that right merely because one member is satisfied ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I think there is considerable force in that.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Sir, there is another very important function of the officers in charge of house connection. The plumber does the work under an agreement with the owner of the house ; and he stops at the meter inside the house. We do the work of connecting the street main with the installation inside the house. The whole pipe system has got to be thoroughly tested under the specified pressure. One leaky joint or defective fitting anywhere, inside the house, means waste of water which means loss of money to the private party in the house and loss to us since the water so wasted could have been available, if the waste were prevented, to other consumers.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : Has the member any objection to bill collectors being appointed for collecting the dues to his department ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : We are going to do it.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 104

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

To omit the allotment of Rs. 4,332 for Water Works Division Office.

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[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

Sir, on a reference to page 27 of the budget, I find that the provision of Rs. 4,332 is composed of three items, *viz.*, Rs. 2,820, Rs 1,080 and Rs. 432. My point is that this new Water Works Division in not necessary for the Willingdon Water Works. So for as I have been able to see, the amounts provided for the Trivandrum Water Works for next year are given in Appendix VIII. These are the items of work to be attended to:

"(1) The settling of liabilities on the first stage of the Willingdon Water Works .. Rs. 50,000."

That certainly, cannot involve any very heavy work.

"(2) Reconstruction of the Water Works Office and attached building . Rs. 40,000."

That can very well be left to the regular P. W. D. After all, some buildings have to be constructed. As in the case of other Departments, these buildings also may be left for construction to the general P. W. D.

"(3) Extension of the street main in the first stage of the town distribitio system . Rs. 6,000."
"(4) Town distribution system—second stage . Rs. 3,00,000."
"(5) Lay out of the water works office premises . Rs. 20,000."
"(6) Protective works from contamination, to the Aruvikara reservoir . Rs. 10,000"
"(7) Tools and plants for the second stage . Rs. 5,000."

All these together, involve an expenditnre of Rs. 4,31,000. Of these, Rs. 40,000 may be left to the general P. W. D. The settlement of liabilities of the first stage is also not important enough for the creation of a new division. Then, there is the provision of Rs. 3 lakhs for the extension of the street mains. I am sure the major portion of it is intended for the purchase of the pipes, so that much work is not involved in that allotment.

On the whole, Sir, I do not think that the additional work involved justifies the creation of a new Division. There is an Assistant Engineer, There is also a Drainage Engineer. Why a new division should be created, I cannot see. It may be argued that, when work in connection with the Nagercoil Water Supply Scheme is commenced, that will also be tacked to this new Division. First of all, it is very doubtful whether the Nagercoil scheme is going to mature. The budget provides Rs 5 lakhs for the scheme for next year. Therefore, I should think that a resident Engineer at Nagercoil itself will be necessary for the work. A Division Officer at Trivandrum can exercise only as much control, over works at Nagercoil, as the Water Works Engineer himself.

Therefore Sir, on the whole, I should think that there is no necessity to create a separate Division. There is also the proposal to create a separate Division for drainage works, and another Division Officer for the Alleppey and Shencottah Water Supply Schemes.

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Now, Sir, if it is found necessary to place the control of these works under a separate Division Officer, I should suggest that, in case the Trivandrum Drainage Works are to be placed under a Division Officer, this may also be placed under him. Anyhow, there is absolutely no justification for creating a separate division for the Trivandrum Willingdon Water Works and the Nagercoil Water Works. Hence, I move my motion.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO. (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, the motion for reduction is under Working Expenses and not under Capital Works. So I shall confine my reply to the provision under the Working Expenses. The sum of Rs. 4,332 mentioned in the motion consists of three items of Rs. 2,820, Rs. 1,080 and Rs. 432. These are items representing the pay of certain staff. If a reference were made to page 27 of the sanctioned budget for 1111, it will be found that that staff is an *existing* staff. It is not a staff that is newly proposed in the budget for the next year. The only addition to that staff is one typist. In the foot-note, it is mentioned that the permanent staff is proposed to be transferred to the Division Office to be created in 1112. Well, Sir, this staff consists of a store-keeper, a store-clerk, telephone operators, two peons, two store lascars, and two store-watchers. These are people debited to working expenses to carry out the work in connection with the working expenses. Heitherto they were working under the Water Works Division Officer who is the Division Officer for the entire department now. Next year we propose to transfer this staff to the proposed division which has to be created, not because of these working expenses solely but because of the bigger project we have got to handle in addition to the balance of work on the Willingdon Water Works Project which we have got to do next year. There is another item in the last year's budget. When the Water Works Department was separated from the Public Works Department, one clerk, one draftsman and one tracer were transferred from the Chief Engineer's Office to the Water Works Department. They are intended for doing the work in the Division Office consequent upon the Working Expenses. I shall explain. Connections have got to be given to the Government buildings. The estimates for the water supply installation to the Government buildings will contain not only the installation proper but also the connection. These have got to be checked in the Division Office before they are submitted for sanction. That is why a draftsman and a tracer are already provided for. A clerk is already there to look to the consequent correspondence work. Therefore this sum of Rs. 4,332 is not altogether for a new staff that is proposed for 1112. It is for the *existing staff* which has been working all along, the only addition being a typist on Rs. 25-40.

The mover mentioned that he did not see the necessity for creating a Division Office,—I am now going on to the capital side of it—and he suggested that, if a Division Officer of status is required for looking

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[Vastu Vidya Kusala C. Balakrishn Rao.]

after these new water supply works, one officer can look after the water supply works for Alleppey, Shencotta and other places. I will come later to that. For the present, the Division Officer, Trivandrum,- we will not call him the Division Officer for Willingdon Water Works or Nagercoil Water Works-has got to handle the following grants :—

		Rs.
(1) Willingdon Water Works, Capital	...	4,31,000
(2) Working Expenses, Willingdon Water Works	...	51,000
(3) Nagercoil Water Supply	...	5,00,000
(4) Water Supply Installation to Government buildings (XXX D)	...	68,000
(5) Water Supply to Military buildings (about)	...	10,000
(6) Shifting of Water Mains (about)	...	10,000

It works out to Rs. 10,70,000. I say it is work for two Division Officers, not one. Nevertheless, feeling that if I asked for two, I may not get any at all, I asked only for one.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Will all the works be properly executed because there is only one?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : We hope to do it by over-working ourselves.

In connection with these projects, one point I would like to mention is that it is real economy in my opinion to see that the project is completed in the quickest time possible so that we can save on the interest during the construction period. At the same time, these projects being projects of a utilitarian or humanitarian nature, it is desirable to give the benefit to the people concerned as quickly as possible. If the Department is to carry out the Project construction expeditiously, it should be given the assistance of an adequate staff. In regard to water works structures, if a leak should start either in a pipe joint or anywhere else, the money spent is lost. The authorities who finance the scheme lose their money and the Engineer who is in charge of the structures loses his reputation. So, close supervision is necessary in construction and the staff should be adequate to ensure it.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : Is it in any way more dangerous than electricity?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Electricity may kill, but water supply will kill us in the shape of the money we spent on it. It may drown the people as a matter of fact. Supposing my high level reservoir on the Observatory hill should break, I suppose it will flood a fairly large part of Trivandrum. So, great care has got to be bestowed on the supervision of the construction of the structures.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum – Rural*) : May I know how many officers were employed for laying the 68 miles of pipe for the Trivandrum Water Supply?

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VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, there was one Executive Engineer and that was myself. I had two Assistant Engineers and a number of Supervisors.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know their number?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*: At that time, we had eight.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Sir, am I to understand that all these people were employed in pipe-laying at that time in the town?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and rainage Engineer*: Sir, I will not be right in saying that all those officers were emp loyed solely in pipe-laying in the Town. They were engaged on the various parts of the scheme which constituted the first stage of the Willingdon Water Works. In the execution of these projects, it has been my experience that every day some professional problem or other crops up and the Assistant Engineer goes to the Executive Engineer for solution. Unless there is the Executive Engineer on the spot for consultation, the progress of the work will be held up. By holding back the progress, not only is the completion of the work delayed but we get into difficulties with the contractors.

As regards the remark that the staff is too big and that a separate division for the Trivandrum Willingdon Water Works and the Nagercoil Water Works is not required, I may just compare the percentage of the establishment charges that are actually incurred in some departments here and elsewhere. The Travancore Public Works Department charges 14·8 per cent. In the Electrical Department, in 1108, it was 19·1 per cent, in 1109, it was 12 per cent. and in 1110; it was 6·4 per cent. on account of the very high grant. In Madras, the Public Works Department charges somewhere about 23 per cent. The Madras Public Works Department Account Code, which lays down the rules in regard to the establishment charges for Water Supply and Drainage Schemes, allows between 13½ and 14 per cent. for establishment charges. In the Mettur Project, it was estimated at 9½ per cent. But, taking all my staff for the whole Department into consideration, the percentage works out at 9. And I do not think I have asked for a staff which is unduly costly or large.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, in spite of what the Government member has stated, I am not satisfied that a separate division for the Willingdon Water Works under the existing conditions is necessary. As I suggested there will be an Engineer in charge of the work at Nagercoil. It is only control that has got to be exercised over him and this can be done practically from Trivandrum by the Chief Engineer or as I said by the Divisional Officer who will be in charge of the Trivandrum Drainage Works. I therefore feel unconvinced in regard to the necessity for this division and I press my motion.

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The motion was put to the vote of the House and lost.

Motin No. 105.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion—

"*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 97,080 for working Expenses by Re. 1.*"

My object in moving this motion is to point out that the Government is not bestowing any attention to provide good drinking water to the inhabitants of the rural parts in the State. Sir, I do not object to Government spending money for providing amenities for the towns. But I strongly object the policy of Government in spending the public revenues for the people of the towns alone.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: A discussion of the general policy under this motion means a discussion of the general policy underlying this particular grant and not the general policy of the whole Government.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Sir, there is a municipality in Trivandrum and supply of water to towns is an obligatory function of the Municipalities. They must find the necessary funds for supplying good drinking water to the towns.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. The provision of water supply, construction of wells and all that is made in the budget under P. W. D. which has already been dealt with. This only deals with the water supply scheme as it relates to Trivandrum, Alleppey, Nagercoil and Shencotta. I doubt whether the motion for rural wells and other things could be discussed under this Demand.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Does the member think that he will add more weight to my observation made already?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I want a ruling whether this can be discussed at all under this Demand.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: My words were calculated to remind Mr. Easwara Pillai the limited sphere in which he has to talk.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Sir, my objection to this demand is that the public revenue should not be utilised for providing water for the Trivandrum town alone. That is the obligatory function of the Municipality. The Municipality must borrow money or levy additional tax for providing good drinking water. My object in moving this motion is to protest against the policy of Government, spending large amounts in towns, to spoon feed municipalities and to stress the necessity of distributing the public revenue, for the benefit of the whole State.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, I support the motion. In doing so, I wish to point out the necessity for carrying out water works in an important town like Kottayam. I shall finish my speech in two sentences.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But if the sentences are not relevant, it does not matter whether they are two or twenty.

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MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, during the summer not a drop of water is available in Kottayam.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I sympathise with Kottayam, but not with the member's present attitude.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): If I am able to attract the sympathy of Government, I am satisfied. The rivers and canals all become saltish by the inflow of salt water. I request the Water Works Engineer at least to investigate if there is a possibility of supplying water to the towns.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Sir, I support the motion. In doing so, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the scarcity of good drinking water in the coastal *pakuthies* of the Chirayinkil taluk.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Whether it is Chirayinkil, Nedumangad or Kottayam, the principle is the same. I pointed out to Mr. Easwara Pillai that he should confine his remarks within a certain sphere. This motion relates to water supply in Trivandrum. Whether the allotment should be granted or not is one matter, and whether water supply should be made to the other parts of Travancore is entirely a different matter. I think I can count upon the courtesy of the members when I request them not to elaborate on the latter point. If members repeatedly advance the same argument, it will be putting the Chair into a position from which the Chair will have to use its powers.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: (*Chirayinkil II*): Sir, I want to submit one word. If at all Government undertake to provide good drinking water, the Government must have a comprehensive scheme so that, in the execution of that scheme, all the parts of the State where there is no good drinking water will be benefited. I submit that the Government have not investigated the problem of supplying good drinking water in various parts of the State. In 1109, the Public Health Director was appointed to investigate the problem of providing drinking water for the taluks of Kartikapalli, Shencotta and some other places. But the scarcity of good drinking water in some of the coastal *pakuthies* of Chirayinkil—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You have come back to the same subject. I must prevent your making further remarks on that subject.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): The problem of providing good drinking water to the taluk of Chirayinkil has been disregarded altogether. In that view, I support this motion.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is my painful duty to call the attention of the House to a certain aspect of the matter, namely, that in spite of observations made from time to time that there is very little value in repeating arguments especially when they are irrelevant,—it is my painful duty to see member after member advancing the same argument.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Sir, one word of explanation.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: No explanation is necessary.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapally*): ഇതേ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഞാനും ഒരു ഉപക്ഷേപം മാജരാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുതലായ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ മാത്രം വാട്ടർവർക്ക്സിനും ജലനിഗ്രമനത്തിനും പണം ചെലവാക്കിയാൽ പോരാ ഇതിലേക്കു ചെലവാക്കുന്നപണത്തിന്റെ ഒരംശം കുഗ്രാമങ്ങളിലേക്കും കൂടി ചെലവിടേണ്ടതാണെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളത്. ഞാനും ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Sir, I oppose this motion. Trivandrum is the capital city of Travancore and in every State, the capital city receives special consideration.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Paur*): Should there be special consideration even in the matter of drinking water?

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESWARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Yes. The amenities of the capital are shared by all those who come to Trivandrum. It is an onerous expenditure, which must be contributed by all alike. That is an expression well-known in public finance. I sympathise with those members who speak for their respective constituencies. While they press their needs, they should not question the propriety of the capital being supplied with good drinking water. If they want their needs to be satisfied they can bring forward cut motions under the Public Health Department for the expenditure of a larger amount of money on wells etc., in the different parts of the State.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, I rise to support the motion. In 1111, the estimated receipt under Water Works was Rs. 1,09,000 and expenditure was Rs. 90,080 resulting in a net receipt of Rs. 17,000 and odd. But in the revised estimate, the gross receipt is Rs. 70,000 and the working expenses is Rs 69,000 resulting in a balance of Rs. 1,000. In the Budget Estimate for 1112, the net profit is estimated to be Rs. 16,000 and odd. So even though in 1111 the Water Works Engineer expected to have a net profit of about Rs. 18,000, it was reduced to Rs. 1,000. The estimate is clearly incorrect.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): How much was saved?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Rs. 1,000.

He erred in his calculations last year. Unless he has improved to a considerable extent in his calculations this year, the income will necessarily go down. We have invested about Rs. 60 lakhs upon these water works and it is absolutely necessary to see that the working expenses are brought down to as low a figure as possible consistent with efficiency. I do not say that efficiency should suffer. So we should not attempt to indiscriminately cut down expenses because it will be bad economy. But in view of the fact that so much money has been spent upon the Water Works here, and in view of the fact that the expected income has not been obtained, it is only proper that we see

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that the working expenses are reduced as far as possible. I feel that it is too much to spend Rs. 90,000 on working expenses. On that ground, I support the motion.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala II*) : Sir, I support the motion. I cannot understand why so much money is being spent for Trivandrum. My friend Mr. Parameswara Aiyar said that, being the capital, additional amenities must be provided here, and that all the citizens of the State should glory in the fact that they are to share in the amenities given to them in the capital. In a certain sense, it is true. But, surely, there is a limit to everything. We have stood aside and waited till you spend Rs. 60 lakhs even then you want more money for the capital, while other parts of the State are pratically without any water, or with water which is absolutely useless even for touching, much less for using. The present Water Works Engineer, as if by a magic wand, produced very fine water in Alleppey the other day. Some of us went and saw the work that is going on. It is very fine water which is obtained from below 250 feet.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : What has the Alleppey water to do with the Trivandrum Water Works ?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala II*): Sir, both from part of a costly scheme and the persons in charge should provide good water for Shertala, and other places.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I have ruled on that.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala II*): While spending Rs. 60 lakhs for Trivandrum, some money should be utilised for providing water in other parts of the State as well. I want to impress on the Government that rural parts especially the coastal regions have a first claim on the exchequer of the State for providing good water,

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, this motion again is under "working expenses". The Water Works have come into existence and water supply has been going on. Necessarily, therefore, there must be working expenses. As the Chair has ruled out of order references to water supply to areas other than Trivandrum, I will not make any observations on those points.

One member referred to the original budgeted revenue. It is true that the original estimate was Rs. 1,09,000 while the revised estimate is Rs 70,000. The original budgeted expenditure was about Rs. 91,000 while the revised estimate for 1111 Rs. 69,000. He thereby drew the conclusion that the estimate was faulty. I can very easily explain the reduction in expenditure. Certain appointments, such as those of meter readers, that we intended to make, were not made during the year, and naturally savings under Establishment accrued. Under working expenses, the consumption has not risen up to the expected limit. Therefore, there is bound to be a saving on account of chemicals and pumping charges. That accounts for the reduced allotment for expenditure in the revised estimate.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has efficiency suffered owing to the non-appointment of the staff provided for?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): I cannot say that efficiency has suffered. We got through that work by other agencies, that is to say, through Work Establishment members.

The work which ought to have been done by the meter readers, was not allowed to remain at a standstill.

As regards the receipt item, Sir, the Municipality has to contribute a lakh of rupees for this purpose. I am at present not in a position to explain how that figure Rs. 70,000 happened to come in in the printed Budget. At the least, the revenue ought to be Rs. 1 lakh.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the Water Works Engineer has submitted any figures for this purpose for 1111?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Does the member now say that Rs. 70,000 does not agree with the figure that was given by him?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): At present, I am not in a position to explain that.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The way in which Government got this figure from the departmental head is not a point for this House to consider at this stage. I am saying this, because it wil lead to unnecessary discussion. We should take the Government figures as such. I have been pointing out from time to time that the official member represents Government. Whether the Head of a Department submits a scheme for expenditure, or not that is a matter in which details need not be placed before the House, particularly the way how the Government arrived at these figures. That will lead to great difficulties in the future.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): If a mistake is found and if the Financial Secretary says that he relies upon the information supplied by the departmental head and that he is not responsible for any discrepancy in figures, on whom can this House fix the responsibility? Whom could we found fault with? From whom can we get the correct figures?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I appreciate all these and that is the reason why I did not raise any objection to Mr. Asan pointing out the defect. To ask for elaborate explanations as to whether the departmental head submitted this figure or that figure, that will lead us to difficulties. I think Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai and the House for that matter will note that I allowed Mr. Asan to point out the discrepancy and there it must stop.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know from the Water Works Engineer whether the Government are in a position to say how this Rs. 70,000 was arrived at?

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VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): I understand this one lakh must be contributed by the Municipality. Subsequently the Government may have thought that the whole amount may not be realised from the Municipality. Therefore, the Government might have estimated the figure at Rs. 70,000.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What is it that stands in the way of Government realising the whole of one lakh?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): I think the matter is now under correspondence with the Municipality.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Sir, Mr. Paramesvara Aiyar said that, Trivandrum being the metropolis, the people should be differently treated. I don't quite endorse this view.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: He never said that the people of Trivandrum should be treated differently. All that he said was that Trivandrum, being the capital city, should be given certain amenities irrespective of the volume of expenditure.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Then, my friend Mr. Elenkath stated that I am bringing to the notice of the House the requirements of the people of my constituency. I am not properly understood. I am only bringing to the notice of the House the requirements of the people in rural parts in regard to the supply of good drinking water. The Water Works Engineer has not given a satisfactory explanation in regard to the supply of good drinking water to the much needed rural population. I therefore press the motion.

The motion was put to vote and lost.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): I demand a poll.

A poll was taken with the following result :—

AYES.—20.

1 Mr. K. P. Krishna Menon
2 ,, T. C. Joseph
3 ,, S. Nilakanta Pillai
4 ,, P. K. Thomas
5 ,, V. Ramakrishna Panicker
6 ,, K. M. Kuriakose
7 ,, K. Mahomed
8 ,, K. Kunjukrishna Pillai
9 ,, A. S. Damodaran Asan
10 ,, Pacode A. Narayana Pillai
11 ,, A. Easwara Pillai (*Kalkulam II*)
12 Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (*Kottarakara*)
08 ,, R. Sivaraman Nair
14 ,, Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai
15 ,, Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon
16 ,, Pottayil S. Krishna Panicker
17 ,, M. K. Madhavan Pillai
18 ,, T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
19 ,, V. K. Velappan Nair
20 ,, M. Sivatanu Pillai

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[Mr. A. Easwara Pillai.]

NOES—27.

1 Mr. N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib
2 ,, K. C. Abraham
3 Rao Sahib S. Parameswara Aiyar
4 ,, M. Mahomed Haneef
5 Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikhamony
6 Mr. A. Thanu Pillai
7 ,, J. W. Tolson
8 ,, Antony George
9 ,, J. M. Joseph
10 ,, Menatheri N. Kesava Panicker
11 ,, S. Chattanatha Karayalar
12 ,, N. John Joseph
13 ,, C. O. Madhavan
14 ,, T. T. Kesavan Sastri
15 Mr. T. Krishna Pillai
16 ,, K. Madhavan
17 ,, K. C. Karunakaran
18 ,, G. Nilakantan
19 Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai
20 Mr. T. C. Thomman
21 Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswamy Aiyar
22 ,, K. George
23 Vastuvidya Kusala C. Balakrishna Rao
24 ,, Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai
25 ,, C. V. Chandrasekharan
26 ,, K. P. Padmanabha Menon
27 ,, N. K. Padmanabha Pillai

NEUTRALS—9.

1 Mr. T. K. Alexander
2 ,, V. T. Chacko
3 ,, K. R. Elenkath
4 ,, T. S Jayantan Nambutiri
5 ,, K. M. Krishnan
6 Mr. E. K. Kunjuraman
7 ,, R. Sambasiva Aiyar
8 ,, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai
9 ,, M. K. Janardana Kamath

Motirn No. 106.

The following motion was not moved.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:

106. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 97,080 for working expenses by Re. 1.

Motion No. 107.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think motion No. 107 should come after Nos. 108 and 109. Unless the member convinces me on that point, he cannot move that. It should come under total allotment.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): If my motion for reduction is carried, the other items need not be moved.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): First of all, I would point out that it will be convenient for discussion if the question of policy is discussed on this motion. That is why I say this motion should be taken up.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Can Mr. Nilakanta Pillai tell me whether there is any precedent on this point.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Such a motion has been permitted to be discussed on a prior occasion.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Memory is not enough.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, I may point out even this morning a motion for reduction was given precedence to a

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token motion for discussing the question of policy. Though the object of the motion is given, the motion as such is a specific one and it ought to precede a token motion.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I find there is one rule which says:—

"*No motion shall be made for the reduction of a grant as a whole until all the motions for the omission or reduction of definite items within the grant have been discussed.*"

But that is somewhat different from the present case. The view expressed by the Law Member has one merit. It appears to me that, if the total amount under a demand is rejected, it will be impossible to take up the other questions. Under the law there are authorities according to the constitution in whom are vested certain powers. In case the House rejects the Demand which is absolutely necessary for the carrying on of the work, the Government may have to devise other means. Therefore it will be to the interest of the public if we allow the token motion to be discussed first, for we do not know what chance Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai's motion will have. If the whole thing is omitted, then there will be no means of expressing the opinion of this House on the matter of policy.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): A word of personal explanation. If the House accepts my motion for omission——

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Only if it accepts?

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Yes. If the House says that this amount need not be spent, then where is the necessity for a token motion?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is exactly what I was trying to explain. I was thinking of certain possibilities in certain directions. I have tried to explain what was in my mind. I have heard the other point of view and I have also heard the Law Member on behalf of Government. No Hon'ble member has placed before me a definite ruling on this point.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I wish to place a definite precedent.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I asked for it because I wanted to be benefited by the wisdom of the members of this House. That was not given to me. Therefore, after I have got up to pronounce upon this matter definitely, I am sorry I am not able to entertain that view. I therefore am of opinion that the token motion may be taken up first.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Sir, will there not be conflict of rulings by the President? In the list of motions in respect of the P. W. Department, the first motion was for the total reduction of the salary of the Assistant Engineer and the second motion was for the reduction of one rupee from the salary of the same officer to discuss the policy. The motions are printed according to the orders passed or in obedience to the directions made by the President. There the first motion for the total cut was discussed first and the token motion taken up next.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I do not think any difficulty can arise for; as human nature is constituted differently, there will be difference of views. I gave sufficient notice to the House that, if there is any precedent it may be placed before me. I remember precedents. But no man can carry all the precedents in his head. I did not get any other view. I got no authority and I consulted some of the members who wanted to express their views. And I pronounced this ruling. That ruling must stand for the time being, and; if later on, points of view are put before the Chair they will be considered.

Motion No. 108.

The following motion was not moved as the memberwas absent: –

MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR:

108. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,34,800 for the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme by Re. 1.

Motion No. 109.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,34,800 for the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme by Re. 1.

It was answered that at first there was a proposal to submit the Drainage Scheme to the scrutiny of experts and subsequently that idea was abandoned. That appears to be a very serious matter. We are launching on a scheme which would cost about a crore of rupees and, so far as I am able to understand, the work of investigation and preparation of the scheme has been entrusted to a very junior officer of the Department who has not any considerable experience either here or elsewhere. Have we got in this State any officer who has got sufficient experience of Drainage work?

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know what experience Mr. Balakrishna Rao had when he was appointed as the Water Works Engineer?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question is absolutely unnecessary.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): I can answer that question, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: No, I cannot allow that question to be answered. Mr. Nilakantan can question about the pyramids of Egypt with equal propriety. Mr. Balakrishna Rao is not in possession of the House.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Let us consider the Water Works Department. We are getting very good water. But can any body assert positively that, if we had at the very beginning the services of an officer who had experience in Water Works, we would not have got the same kind of water at a smaller cost? That is the question I put to the House. No doubt we are getting good water. We must appreciate the work of the Water Works Engineer. So far

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as I can see, it is not clear that, if we had at the head of affairs an Engineer of experience in that line, we would not have got water at a smaller cost. Instead of Rs. 60 lakhs, probably the cost would have been Rs. 50 lakhs and the result would have been equally good. Here we are embarking upon another scheme. In that scheme at least it should be scrutinised by experts. That nobody can deny. Whenever any work of this kind has been taken by Government, they always submitted it to the scrutiny of experts. What is the harm in doing so in this case also? It was answered yesterday that there was a proposal at first to do so and subsequently the idea was given up. I think it is a very serious matter which requires explanation as to why the idea once entertained was given up. Is it because the matter is so very clear without the scrutiny of an expert that it is not necessary to do so or is it because of the fear that as a result of the scrutiny the opinion of the expert may not be quite favourable to the scheme itself? I do not know the reason why they do not do so. This requires an explanation and I would suggest that the scheme be really referred to an expert even though it may cost us some amount. Let us be on our guard before we embark on a scheme like this. I would also like to know from the official member in a general way as to what is proposed to be done with this amount, how the scheme is to be worked, what it would cost to the people ultimately by way of taxes, and whether the Municipality has agreed to make any payment on this account. I should like to be enlightened on these points. With these words, I move the motion for the consideration of the House.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I wish to offer a few words regarding the Drainage Scheme under contemplation as the mover has put it. The Water Supply Scheme would have been more profitably undertaken, if it had been done under expert supervision. I know instances where pipes have been laid and then removed and the line covered. Once or twice pipes have been removed in certain roads in the Trivandrum town. If there had been a definite plan with regard to the Town Planning Scheme, the Water Supply Scheme and the Drainage Scheme, they would have been more profitably worked out. In all civilized towns the Water Supply and Drainage Schemes are worked hand in hand and it will also very much help to lessen the cost. In some places the Water Supply pipes go above that of the Drainage Supply pipes That means a large amount of money would have been saved in the laying of the pipes and also in the compensation of land. Even with regard to the choosing of lines for laying of Drainage pipes, I find that it is not done under proper supervision and to the advantage of the Government and the people. Those who are in charge of this work are generally amenable to all sorts of influence and in order to help some of their relations by some amount of money they divert the lines. I know instances in Trivandrum where the Drainage line if taken through a public lane would cost Government much less than if it is taken through the proposed line. I mean the Vanchiyoor line. The other day the people of Vanchiyoor observed that it was in

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[Mr. K. R. Elenkath.]

order to save the house of a particular relation of some one in the Drainage Department that they were diverting the line through a place which would necessitate the demolition of a number of buildings and increase the cost of compensation. Under these circumstances, the officer in charge of the Department should scrutinise the work. He should not leave things to be looked after by his subordinates. He should directly go to the spot himself and directly attend to the selection of line and such other things. I only want to mention this for the consideration of the House.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : One point I may be permitted to state and that is that except in the main roads the employees seem to be disregarding the needs of the public when excavating and refilling the portions excavated. In the main road things are done properly. But along the by-roads when excavations are made, though no cases have been reported of any accident, they haphazardly fill the pits, leave them there, and go away. Within a couple of days, the earth sinks and the road is reduced to a very bad condition. The P. W. Department might have spent up all their amounts for the maintenance of that portion of the road and they would not care to return to the spot and repair the place. The Water Works or the Drainage people have done their duty. They have excavated and laid the pipe, and covered the pits. But it is the public that suffer. This sort of indifference on the part of those officers is a matter which has to be taken better notice of. No doubt, we are spending a lot of money. If it is to serve the convenience of the people, it should be done more properly. After mauling the road and cutting it into pieces, they should not leave it as it is and be permitted to go away. The extremely improper condition of many of the roads in Trivandrum, I am afraid, is due to this sort of work carried out by the Water Works or the Drainage Department. It is more so in the case of the coming Drainage Scheme because they are digging deeper pits. For instance, the first example is to be seen in the Chalai road. Very deep ditches are being made there and if proper attention is not paid to this aspect by the head of the department it is very likely that the public will sustain very great inconvenience. I therefore support the motion.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Sir, the mover suggested the desirability of referring the drainage scheme to an expert. He also raised the question as to why it was not referred to an expert, even though there was a proposal to do so at an earlier stage. Regarding that, so far as I have been able to understand from the files on the subject, I do not think the original idea was to refer the scheme to an expert after the scheme was prepared. The idea seems to have been to get the scheme prepared by an expert. Subsequently that idea was given up and, in the place of a costly expert, Government were able to secure the services of an officer with considerable experience not only in investi-

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gation and designing but in execution who was actually in charge of certain drainage schemes in British India and, with his help the Drainage Engineer was directed to prepare the scheme. I have scrutinised the scheme and, as one who has known Trivandrum for the past so many years, I find the scheme has been prepared on the right lines. Sir, after all, a thorough and intimate knowledge of the town and its levels and the seasonal rains and other local conditions are more essential for designing a drainage scheme than any expert knowledge that an outsider who is foreign to the town can bring to bear upon it.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is there a complete scheme now before the department?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Yes, Sir.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know who prepared that complete scheme?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): The scheme was prepared by the Drainage Engineer assisted by his Assistant who, as I described, is a man who has carried out several schemes, and it has been scruitinsed by the Water Works and Drainage Engineer to Government.

So then, at the present stage, if the scheme is to be submitted to an expert, I do not believe any special benefit will be derived, commensurate with the fees that may have to be paid to him.

As regards the Water Supply Scheme, the mover suggested that, if the Water Supply Scheme had been referred to an expert, perhaps we could have got an equally good scheme at a lesser cost. Sir, Travancore has been made by God in a particular manner that no expert can changeit . Aruvikara has been Aruvikara and the levels have been the same as before. The intermediate country is all a broken country.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): I did not make that positive asssertion. In case that had been done, no one can at a later day positively say that some savings could have been effected. That is what I said.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Well, that is only a possibility. It might have been possible that there would have been a saving or it might have been possible that there might have been an excess expenditure. What it might have been we are not in a position to say now. I, as the Officer who designed the scheme and carried it out, would say that, in my opinion, the scheme has been carried out as cheaply as conditions permitted.

Another observation made by the mover was that the scheme has been entrusted to an inexperienced officer. As already explained, that officer has the assistance of a very experienced officer from the Madras Presidency.

The mover wanted to have briefly some details about the scheme, about the costs and what the rates are going to be to the people and so on. The cost of the scheme is Rs. 45·96 lakhs. It consists of two

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[Vastu Vidya Kusala C. Balakrishna Rao.]

parts, the underground sewerage system and the scheme for storm water disposal. As everybody knows, certain parts of Trivandrum are low-lying flat areas and water-logged. It may perhaps be a surprise to the House to know that in Pazhavangadi Street, the sub-soil water level in the wet season is 6 inches below the road level. Naturally, stagnation of sullage takes place in the street drains in such areas, and as there are no proper discharge outfalls, flooding occurs in rains. In 1933, there was every likelihood of Chalai being flooded by the Killiyar. If there had been a properly graded sewerage system with the necessary disposal works, there would have been no stagnation of sullage water. The underground sewerage system is estimated to cost Rs. 89·96 lakhs and storm water disposal Rs. 6 lakhs. It is proposed to spread this expenditure over about 5 or 6 years.

With regard to the tax that may have to be levied, the amended Municipal Regulation permits tax being levied to the extent of 10 per cent. both for Water Supply and Drainage. I believe about 5 per cent. may be required for Drainage. At present the Municipality is spending nearly Rs. 40,000 on scavenging and that can be saved entirely; and, by the introduction of the underground sewerage scheme, we will not have the procession of the night-soil carts and buckets which go about the streets. The idea is to provide connections with the underground sewers to which house-owners will lead their sewage. The owners can construct cheap hand-flushed latrine, so that the present expenditure of Rs. 40,000 can be saved by the Municipality; and, in addition to that, it is in the experience of everybody in the town that we have to pay not only the scavenging tax to the Municipality but we have got to tip the scavenger also people will save that tip also.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): In taking advantage of the sewage facilities contemplated, may I know whether the present houses may be left as they are or whether they will have to be rebuilt so that people may take advantage of the sewage facilities.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, the present houses need not be rebuilt. In making the survey under the investigation of the Drainage Scheme, we have surveyed every compound showing the positions not only of the houses but the positions of the latrines. We have recorded these in our plan; and in that plan we have noted where the seweage may be connected to the sewer. All that the owner has to do is to lead his drains to the sewerage connections. If a private owner wants more than one connection, he has to pay for the additional connection. One connection will be done under the scheme itself.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know what will be the recurring establishment charge when the scheme is complete?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): It is too early to make any definite statement on it. We have not worked out the establishment charges.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether the Willingdon Water Works was committed to the scrutiny of an outsider when the work was commenced?

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VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, the Willingdon Water Works as now executed was not sent to an outside expert. A scheme was prepared some years back by the late Mr. Banerjee under the supervision of Mr. F. J. Jacob and was referred to Mr. Madeley, who was the Engineer of the Madras Corporation. He gave a report and that report was available to me when I was asked to design the scheme; but in that report I found there were several points which he had recommended but which I could not accept and I had to depart from. The final scheme prepared for the Water Supply was no doubt scrutinised by Mr. Vipan, the then Chief Engineer, Travancore.

Another Honourable member mentioned that now and then the mains laid once had to be shifted.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) May I know what is the status of this Engineer of experience who is assisting the Drainage Engineer ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): He is Assistant Drainage Engineer here.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): What was he outside ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): He was the Technical Superintendent under the Sanitary Engineer, Madras.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know the grade of pay which he was getting ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): I am sorry I do not know.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether he was a senior officer or a subordinate officer in the lower ranks there ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): He was an officer working under the direct orders of the Sanitary Engineer, Madras, in whose office all schemes for Water Supply and Drainage required in the City and mofussil towns are prepared. As regards the grade he was placed in, I am sorry I do not know.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was his grade there considered when his pay was fixed here ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): I am not quite sure ; Government might have considered.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) Is he a retired officer of the Madras service ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Yes.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Who will be responsible if the underground Sewerage does not work properly ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is a possibility of a remote character.

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VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : The investigation officer, his Assistant referred to by Mr. Thanu Pillai, and myself would be responsible.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Fixing of responsibility in that matter is beyond the scope of the member's duty.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) In the case of Water Works, we can understand but in the case of sewerage, if any grave situation arises who would be responsible ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is a distant probablity.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : If the Chair would permit me, I would say, Sir, that, with regard to Water Works, it is my responsibility, and with regard to the drainage the Assistant Engineer referred to, the Drainage Engineer and myself are responsible.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether there is any special degree or diploma course in Drainage or is it only the ordinary Civil Engineering course ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : May I tell Mr. Balakrishna Rao and the House that whatever may be the opinion of individual members with regard to the undertaking it is unusual on the part of any officer to say that he is personally responsible. I am specially emphasising this point because such undertaking will not carry conviction to the House.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : Sir, my question remains unanswered. I want to know whether there is any special degree or diploma course in Drainage or only the ordinary Civil Engineer's course ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Sir, the Drainage Engineer, who is a B. E. of the Madras University, has had special training in drainage in England not only in theory but in actual construction work when he was apprenticing under a firm of engineers engaged in construction work.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : For how many months?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : For about a year, if my memory is correct.

As regards the shifting of the mains, I was saying that the town-planning came long after our mains had been laid. So it was not possible to see how the mains could have been laid along with the town-planning. Town-planning came long after the mains had been laid.

Mr. Krishna Pillai complained about the back-filling not being done properly. Evidently he referred to the water supply scheme ; we have not yet started back-filling under the drainage scheme.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) What is the shifting likely to cost ?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : It is not going to be very much ; whaterver it is, it will be debited to town improvement; because, the mains having

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been there, and the shifting having been rendered necessary on account of subsequent developments, it is such developments that must bear the cost of shifting.

As regards back-filling, I too have noticed, in certain places, instances of not quite satisfactory back-filling; and I had to sit tight upon my subordinates for not properly and promptly attending to repairs. Now, the Assistant Engineer pays his personal attention to back-filling. The present instructions are, that, as soon as there is rain, our men must go round and examine the back-filling; and, wherever necessary, they have to fill it up again.

As regard the trenches cut across the roads, they are, of course, unavoidable for giving house-connections. The Water Works Department do the back-filling and pay a certain amount to the Roads Division Officer, the expert in road-making, and request him to put the road again in order, by metalling or tarring it as the case may be.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : I should think, Sir, that the arrangements made for the drainage scheme are not of the best. What I gather from the speech of the Water Works Engineer is that the officer in charge of this work is more guided by his assistant than his assitant by him. That, certainly, is not a very satisfactory state of affairs. Perhaps the officer in charge finds it difficult to do the work without the help of his assistant.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is not the Assistant an experienced, old, superannuated officer ? (*Laughter.*)

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): That was why I asked about his grade in British India.

Sir, in such matters, the officer in charge, the controlling officer, must have the necessary experience and knowledge to do the work himself. Under the present circumstances, I think it is better that the whole scheme is left to lie over for the present and examined again more carefully—

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Is it the Drainage Engineer or his Assistant that is now designing the scheme?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) From what I have been able to gather from the official member, I think it is the Assistant that is doing the work.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): May I say, Sir, that it is the Drainge Engineer that is designing the scheme, assisted by his Assistant? The Drainage Engineer has got the necessary knowledge and also experience in England.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Did he gain any practical knowledge of the work in England? Was he doing any drainage work there?

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Yes, Sir; he was working as an apprentice under certain engineers who were actually doing drainage work there.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum Rural*) : It may be, Sir, that, formally, it is the Drainage Engineer that does everything, assisted by his Assistant. But, virtually, from what I have been able to gather

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[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

from the speech of the official member, it is clear that it is the Assistant that is doing the work, and that, but for him, nothing could be done. It is that which, I submit, is not a satisfactory state of affairs. We would rather have for such schemes, officers who could make themselves personally responsible for the work. The present arrangement is not of the best. I take that view, and press the motion.

The motion was put to vote and lost.

Motion No. 107.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil I*) Sir, I beg to make the following motion :

To omit the allotment of Rs. 7,34,800 for the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme.

Sir, the object of my motion is to bring to the notice of Government the strong disapproval of the people in the rural areas of the provision for luxurious living in towns at their expense

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): I rise to a point of order. The question was just now put to the House whether they would reduce just one rupee from the allotment for the Drainage Scheme ; and the House has decided not to do it. Now my friend suggests that the whole allotment be omitted.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : I rise to a point of order. The question that was put to the vote of the House was whether one rupee should be deducted from the allotment for the Drainage Scheme ; and the House decided that one rupee should not be deducted from that allotment.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When Mr. Puthupalli Krishna Pillai has raised a point of order and is awaiting a ruling on it, what is the fun of any member arrogating to himself the function of deciding on that point ? I am not therefore prepared to hear Mr. Pacode Narayana Pillai now.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : There is another aspect of the qestion that has to be considered.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You cannot raise another aspect of that question ; you can raise another point.

In regard to the point of order raised by Mr. Puthupalli Krishna Pillai, I rule that Mr. Nilakanta Pillai is in order.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil I*): Sir, people in the country parts are not in any way benefited by the large provisions made for the improvement of the Trivandrum town. Sir, Mr. Parameswara Iyer said that no one should grudge any provision made for the improvement of the capital, because people from all parts of the country, even from the country parts, come to the capital and get their share of the amenities provided in town. I do not agree with the Honourable member in that view. At any rate, from the point of view of the rural population, that is not a correct view.

So far as the rural population is concerned, even their legitimate demands are being systematically and consistently refused by the Government.

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RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I never said that the people in rural parts should not get any benefit from the Government.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil I*): Our demands, for the repair of minor irrigation works, for roads, for good drinking water, and for primary school buildings, all these demands are being systematically and consistently refused by the Government, very ungraciously, I must say.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): And, therefore, Trivandrum should not have any drainage scheme? (*Laughter.*)

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Why should the people in Trivandrum be given luxuries when the people in rural parts are left in wretched conditions?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: So, according to you, a system of drainage is a luxury?

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Sir, we are not given even our necessities. That is my point.

Further, as Mr. Thanu Pillai said, we have not got sufficient data to decide whether this demand is necessary or not. On that ground also, I object to the demand being granted.

With these words, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): I would like to speak a word on this motion. Of course, I am not in agreement with all the arguments advanced by the mover, nor am I for the omission of the entire allotment. However, I agree with the spirit of the motion. There is, it cannot be denied, a kind of indifference, on the part of the Government, towards the needs of the rural areas. This indifference, I must say, has even become culpable in recent years.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): On a point of order, Sir. The member has stated that he does not agree with the arguments advanced by the mover, nor does he want the omission of the entire allotment. He is now discussing the policy of the Government in distributing funds. Is he in order, Sir?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Let us give Mr. Padmanabhan some more time.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): I said, Sir, that, although I did not agree with all the arguments advanced by the mover, I agreed with the spirit of the motion.

Sir, about 3 years ago, in the very first session of this Assembly, a resolution was unanimously carried that good drinking water must be supplied to all places where it is not now available.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Has that question anything to do with the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): What has the Government done, Sir, in that matter, although this House passed that resolution unanimously, even three years ago?

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Did the official members also agree with that resolution ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Those are all very small matters.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : If I remember right, Sir, the Government member also said that the Government agreed as to the necessity for providing good drinking water wherever it was needed. I am not quite sure ; but I do not think that the Government opposed it.

Sir, drinking water is an elementary necessity.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Is that not an argument for allowing this demand ?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : That was why I said that I did not agree with all the arguments advanced by the mover.

To show the indifference on the part of the Government towards rural needs, I shall just mention one instance ; and I would request the indulgence of the House for a minute or two.

In the coastal region of my Taluk, good drinking water is not available.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : What has the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme to do with the want of drinking water in Chirayinkil ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : If the drainage is extended to any place, it would not give drinking water, I suppose.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): As a result of repeated representation made by the people of that locality, the Government were gracious enough to sanction two tube wells in the coastal regions, but the work was continued for some time and left half way. About that several questions were asked in this House and the answer has been that the matter is under the consideration of Government. I would therefore urge on the attention of this House this aspect; and I request the Government to do something effective and tangible for giving good drinking water to the people in the rural parts.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Is the member allowed to talk in Malayalam ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is a point that requires elucidation. I want definitely to be informed in what language Mr. Varughese was talking yesterday, whether it was in English or in Malayalam.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : As the Dewan presided yesterday, with his special permission, I spoke in English.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, I raised the point of order yesterday and the President said that Mr. Varughese availed himself of the absence of the President and talked in Malayalam the previous day and that in future he should not be allowed to talk in Malayalam, but should be allowed to talk only in English.

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MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil*): The proceedings of yesterday may be referred to.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I do not want that advice. The Chair knows what it should do.

MR. N. E VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Sir, I wanted permission to speak in English because I feared that the Chair might not be able to follow me if I spoke in Malayalam.

DEPUTY PESIDENT: Order, order. Now I have got the explanation furnished by Mr. Varughese himself and the statement of facts by another member on the non-official side of what took place yesterday. Mr. Varughese said that, because the President was in the Chair yesterday morning, he sought for and obtained permssion of the Chair to speak in English. The point that would count is whether the member is able to speak in Malayalam or English. The ability of the occupant of the Chair to understand a particular language is not the question. If Mr. Varughese desired to speak in Malayalam and in Malayalam alone, he could have sought the assistance of Government who would have provided him possibly with an interpreter like the one who has been given to Mr. Narayanan Bhattathiripad. There must be some stability even in this. To attempt to talk in English once, in the Vernacular at another time, revert back to English and swing like a pendulum to another language, that I cannot permit. I am not making this observation about Mr. Varughese alone. It applies to any member who does that. Therefore I cannot permit Mr. Varughese to speak in Malayalam. He must speak only in English. Further it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of this House and to Mr. Varughese's own satisfaction that he is able to express his thoughts in English. Therefore, if at all he wants to speak, he must speak in English.

MR. N. E VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Sir, I am forced to speak in a foreign language.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I expect Mr. Varughese to withdraw that statement. Everybody knows that the Chair has given a ruling that Mr. Varguhese should talk in English. Any further statement in regard to that is unnecessary. Mr. Varughese may therefore speak in English, without any comment on the ruling.

MR N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): I too support the motion because of the general principle underlying it. The question before the House is whether such a large amount as Rs. 7 lakhs and odd should be spent for the amenities of the inhabitants of the town of Trivandrum. Sir that money is not the property of theinhabitants of Trivandrum alone. The tax-payers of more than four thousand villages contribute to the exchequer of the State. To satisfy the requirements of the inhabitants of a particular town at the expense of the general money and at the sacrifice of other people's necessaries and amenities is a policy that ought to be seriously considered by the Government, before they venture upon this Drainage scheme. Sir, in the rural areas, there are so many necessities we are lacking in. In the first place, there is no good water. In the second place there is want of communication and the villagers

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[Mr. N. E. Varughese.]

are not very anxious about amenities. The necessaries of life have got to be attended to first. That ought to be the first charge on the public exchequer, not the amenities of inhabitants of towns. Sir, it is nothing but a luxury to spend such a large amount for this amenity. I do not know whether any misfortune or any epidemic existed for want of a drainage scheme in the city of Trivandrum. I know Trivandrum for the last 40 years or so. I have never felt any need for a drainage scheme here all these years. There is good water supply in the town of Trivandrum more than in any other rural areas; and the city of Trivandrum is not so very crowded that the want of a drainage scheme would affect the health of the population.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the member could mention any city or town where there is water supply but no drainage?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*); Sir, the needs of the Travancoreans as a whole should be taken into consideration and it is not proper at this time when there is general distress, when there is depression throughout the State, to utilise such a big amount for the purpose of this amenity in a single town.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, the mover's point was that because the rural parts require a certain sort of help or relief, Trivandrum should not have a drainage scheme. Sir, after all, what does the population of the Trivandrum city consist of? If we make an attempt at an analysis, we will probably find that the major portion of the population in the town consists of the population from the rural parts who come to Trivandrum either as periodical residents or as casual visitors on several pieces of business. Sir, the capital is a place where you have the seat of Government, the highest appeal court of judicature———

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the proportion of the population of Trivandrum compared to the population of the other parts of Travancore taken together?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I cannot allow that question because Trivandrum is an entity and 'other parts' do not form a definite area. So a comparison is not possible.

VASTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*): Sir, I was saying that the town of Trivandrum is the place of residence not only for the permanent residents or the ancient residents, but it is also the residence of people who have migrated into Trivandrum on various professional business or of students who come to study in the colleges or again of the people who come here for a few days' stay on business. That being so, the health of the city of Trivandrum is as much important in the interests of the ancient residents of Trivandrum as it is in the interests of those gentlemen who come from the rural parts; and if Trivandrum should

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be an insanitary place and disease-ridden, those gentlemen who come from rural parts will carry the infection and spread the disease all over the State.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): May I know whether the member could give any instance of diseases being carried from Trivandrum to the rural parts ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Instances are unnecessary.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know what the disease is that we carry from Trivandrum?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is also unnecessary, because it is well-known to all the world that, if there is any disease in a town and if the disease happens to be contagious or infectious, it will be carried by the people who come to town ; and it requires no further explanation.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Is there such a disease in Trivandrum ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has not the time for this demand lapsed?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: We have got two minutes more.

VISTU VIDYA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO (*Water Works and Drainage Engineer*) : Though I cannot place my finger exactly on the several diseases that were prevalent in Trivandrum in past years, I believe that, on account of the water-logged condition of the low-lying areas, there has been malaria. However, even granting for argument's sake that there have been no diseases in the past, that is no guarantee that there will be no diseases in future. In all these public health schemes, we have got to look into the future and take precautionary measures in good time.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. Nilakanta Pillai, do you want to press your motion ?

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Yes, Sir.

The motion was put to the vote of the House and lost.

The question that a sum of Rs. 25,78,440 be granted under Demand III—Water Works and Drainage Department—was then put and carried, and the grant was made.

Motions Nos. 110 to 115.

The following motions lapsed on account of time limit :—

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

110. To omit the allotment of Rs. 16,020 for Division Office, Trivandrum.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

111. To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for lay-out of Water Works Office premises.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI :

112. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,49,400 for the Willingdon Water Works by Re. 1.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR :

113. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,24,800 for water supply to the Municipal Towns of Alleppey, Nagercoil and Shencotta by Re. 1.

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MR. S. J. NAIR :

114. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,24,800 for water supply to the Municipal Towns of Alleppey, Nagercoil and Shencotta by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

115. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,91,200 for Capital Outlay on Water Supply Schemes by Re. 1.

DEMAND IV—EDUCATION.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 48,31,113, under Demand IV—Education.

Motions Nos. 116 to 119.

The following motions were not made :

MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR:

116. To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,376 for Personal Assistant.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN;

117. To reduce the allotment of Rs 3,376 for Personal Assistant by Re. 1.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN :

118. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,975 for Financial Assistant by Re. 1-

MR. K. PADMANABHAN ;

119. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,975 for Financial Assistant by Re. 1.

Motion No. 120.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Sir, I move —:

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,975 for Financial Assistant by Re. 1.

The object of the motion is to point out certain defects existing in the present method of disbursement of grants to private schools.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : I rise to a point of order. Is it part of the function of the Financial Assistant to give grants ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is not a point of order. It is a question affecting the relevancy of the motion.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : Mr. Padmanabhan said that the motion is intended to point out the defects in the present method of disbursing grants to grant-in-aid schools. If it is contended that the Financial Assistant sanctions the grant, it is alright. Otherwise, it is not admissible under the present head.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Mr. Padmanabhan is quite in order.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Sir, from the Administration Report of the Education Department for the year 1110, we find that, out of a total number of 3,699 educational institutions in the State, 2,650 are private institutions. Out of a total number of 674,317 pupils studying in all these schools together, 384,540 are in private schools. Sir, from these figures this House will understand that, as a matter of fact, about 75 per cent. of the education of the pupils of the State is in the hands of the private institutions. The allotment in the budget for this year, after deducting the allotment for Colleges is about Rs. 45,000

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